

Remarks/Arguments

Claims 1-13 are pending and are rejected. Claims 2 and 12 are objected to.

Claims 1, 2, 10 and 12 are amended. Claims 1 and 10 are amended to correct informalities.

Claim Objections

Responsive to the objection to claim 2, applicants have replaced the phrase "said video apparatus" in claim 2 with "said video processing apparatus," as suggested by the Examiner.

Responsive to the objection to claim 12, applicants have amended the preamble of claim 12 to replace the phrase "at least two peripheral devices" with "at least first and second peripheral devices" to provide proper antecedent basis for the phrase "said first peripheral device" recited in step (a), and the phrase "said second peripheral device" recited in steps (b) and (c). Applicants have also amended step (d) to replace the phrase "determine one of said analog inputs" with "determine which one of said analog inputs," as suggested by the Examiner.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the suggestions.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102 (e)

Responsive to the rejections of claims 1-11 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (e) as being anticipated by US 6,003,041 ("Wugofski"), applicants respectfully submit that Wugofski does not anticipate independent claims 1 and 10, and respective dependent claims 2-9 and 11, for the reasons discussed below.

For example, claim 1 recites a method for controlling a video processing apparatus, the method comprising:

(a) commanding a peripheral device, connected to said video processing apparatus, to transmit an analog signal from an analog output of said peripheral device;

(b) receiving said analog signal from said peripheral device on one of a plurality of analog inputs of said video processing apparatus;

(c) determining which one of said plurality of analog inputs said analog signal is received; and

(d) storing data, in said video processing apparatus, associated with said analog input which has received said analog signal.

Thus, the analog signal is used by the video processing apparatus to determine which one of the analog inputs of the video processing apparatus is connected to the analog output of the peripheral device.

By contrast, the system disclosed in Wugofski requires that the device data base as shown in FIG. 5 to be pre-established by a user. The system does not command a peripheral device to send an analog signal, and use that analog signal to determine which one of the analog inputs of the video processing device is connected to the analog output of the peripheral device as recited in step (c).

For example, at col. 6, lines 24-27, Wugofski states the following:

When a new connection is made, step 711 executes step 715, which requests the user to identify the device 120, its port number in multiplexer 130, and its source 110. (Emphasis added)

As such, the port number (relied upon as one of the analog inputs) in multiplexer 130 in which the new peripheral is connected to is not determined by the computer system 150 (relied upon as the video processing apparatus) from an analog signal sent by the new peripheral as commanded by the computer system 100. Rather, the port number must be entered by a user.

The Office Action relies on the above-quoted sentence as supporting the determining step. However, as discussed above, the port number is entered by a user, so that the system can create the device database as shown in FIG. 5. The system does not determine the port number from an analog signal commanded by the system.

In light of the fact that Wugofski does not disclose or suggest a method for controlling a video processing apparatus, the method comprising the step of commanding a peripheral device, connected to said video processing apparatus, to transmit an analog signal from an analog output of the peripheral device and determining which one of the plurality of analog inputs the analog signal is received, as recited in claim 1, applicants submit that claim 1, and dependent claims 2-9, are patentable over Wugofski.

Furthermore, claim 6 recites that the analog signal is an analog video blanking signal. Nowhere does Wugofski disclose or suggest such a feature. As such, claim 6 is patentable for this reason alone.

Independent claim 10 also recites a determining feature in the monitoring step similar to the determining step as recited in independent claim 1. Specifically, claim 10 recites a step of monitoring each of a plurality of analog inputs to determine which of the analog inputs receives the analog signal commanded by the video processing apparatus. As such, arguments made above with respect to claim 1 are also applicable to claim 10, and claim 10, and dependent claim 11, are patentable over Wugofski.

The Office Action states that Wugofski at col. 6, lines 50-65 as disclosing the monitoring step because when the system detects a valid new signal on the input, it records that input and new channel in the channel map database. However, the channel map table as shown in FIG. 6 does not have an entry for the input port

numbers. As such, the quoted section is irrelevant to the step of monitoring each of analog inputs to determine which one of the analog inputs receives the analog signal. In fact, the port numbers are actually recorded in column 522 in the device database as shown in FIG. 5, and, as discussed above with respect to claim 1, the port number for each peripheral is entered by a user, not by the system monitoring each of the inputs to determine which one receives the analog signal.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a)

Responsive to rejection of claims 12 and 13 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a), applicants submit that both claims are patentable over Wugofski because independent claim 12 recites a monitoring step similar to that recited in claim 10. As such, claim 12, and dependent claim 13, are patentable over Wugofski for similar reasons discussed above with respect to claim 10.

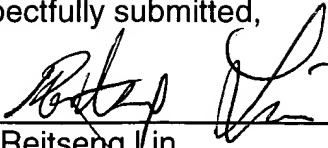
Conclusion

Having fully addressed the Examiner's objections and rejections it is believed that, in view of the preceding amendments and remarks, this application stands in condition for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully solicited. If, however, the Examiner is of the opinion that such action cannot be taken, the Examiner is invited to contact the applicant's attorney at (609) 734-6813, so that a mutually convenient date and time for a telephonic interview may be scheduled.\

Fee

No fee is believed due. However, if a fee is due, please charge the fee to Deposit Account 07-0832.

Respectfully submitted,


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